



BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1946.

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. A. BARLOW, M.B., Ch.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
BRIERFIELD.

August, 1947.

TO the Chairman and Members,
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 13/47, an Interim Report only, on the lines of the 1945 report, is presented for the year 1946. It includes only essential or urgent matters, which have affected Public Health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved, in order that a report can be made dealing more fully with Public Health during the war years, if necessary, giving separate statistics for each year and so that the annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting for your consideration the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary conditions and Public Health administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1946, according to the Rate Book was 2,519, the Rateable Value being £43,733 and the sum represented by a penny rate - £182.

The social Conditions were good; the chief industry is Cotton Weaving.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION The population, as estimated by the Registrar General

for Mid - 1946 is 6,628.

BIRTHS 121 Births belonging to the District occurred during

1946, as follows:-

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL.
Live Births	63	54	117.
Still Births	2	2	4.
			<u>121.</u>

The Birth Rate (Live Births) per 1,000 population is 17.6.

INFANTILE MORTALITY 3 children under 1 year of age died during the

year as follows:-

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Age.
Premature Birth	1	-	1 Day.
Atelectasis	-	1	4 Days
Birth Injuries	-	1	35 mins.

Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) is 25.6

DEATHS Comparative particulars with regard to deaths are

given in the following table. From these will be seen that 30% of the total deaths belonging to Brierfield occurred outside the District.

	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
TOTAL DEATHS:	113	93	99	84	100
Male Deaths:	52	42	55	40	50
Female Deaths:	61	51	44	44	50
DEATHS OUTSIDE DISTRICT:	34	28	34	31	33

Death Rate, per 1,000 est. population is 17.0.

The following table gives the ages at which deaths occurred also the causes of all deaths belonging to Brierfield during the year, 1946.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

CAUSE OF DEATHS	Under 1 year	1 & 5	5 & 15	15 & 25	25 & 65	65 & over	TOTAL.
Whooping Cough		1					1
Non Pulmonary T.B.		1					1
Influenza					2	4	6
Acute Inf. Encephalitis			1				1
Cancer					7	12	19
Diabetes					1		1
Intracranial Vasc. Lesions					1	11	12
Heart Disease			1		4	21	26
Other Dis. of circ. system						6	6
Bronchitis					1	2	3
Pneumonia					1	2	3
Appendicitis					1		1
Other Digestive Diseases					1	4	5
Nephritis						5	5
Prem. Births.	1						1
Con. Mal. Birth Inj.	2						2
Suicide					1		1
Accident						1	1
Arterio Sclerosis					1	5	6
Senile Decay						8	8
Operation					1	1	2
Valvulus						1	1
Gangrene						1	1
TOTALS	3	2	2	-	22	84	113

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

This service is under the direction and control of the District Council. The Centre is open at the following times:-

Day	Clinic	Times open
Monday	Sunlight	from 2.0. p.m.
"	Sale of Food	2.0.p.m. to 4.0. p.m.
Tuesday	Immunisation	from 3.0 p.m.
"	Antenatal (abnormal cases)	After Immunisation clinic.
Wednesday	Antenatal	from 2.30 p.m.
Thursday	Infant Welfare (consultation, treatment)	2.30 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.
Friday	Sale of Food	2.0 p.m. to 6.0 p.m.
	General enquiries and arrangements for consultations for mothers	2.0 p.m. to 6.0 p.m.

VENEREAL
DISEASE

The nearest clinic is at Burnley. Any cases discovered are advised to attend the Burnley Clinic.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

WATER

Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of Nelson Corporation, and there were no new sources of supply during the year. The water is of good quality and in good supply, apart from a few houses in Marsden Heights area where the supply was intermittent. All houses in the District are supplied direct from public mains and there has been no evidence of any form of contamination. No examinations are made by us, as routine examinations are made by Nelson Corporation, Water Department.

SEWAGE
DISPOSAL

No extensions to sewers or sewage works were made during the year, and the existing services and arrangements have been efficiently maintained.

CLOSET
ACCOMM-
ODATION

There are approximately 17 pail closets in the District at isolated cottages in Marsden Heights.

SCAVENGING

This was carried out by the Council's own workmen, with a two-ton "Karrier" tipping waggon. Domestic refuse is collected weekly free of charge from private houses, shops and mills, and disposed of at the Council's Destructor Works.

SALVAGE

This is now work of vital importance and the following amounts of materials were salvaged during the year:-

Material	Weight			Amount Realised to nearest £
	Tons	Cwt	Qrs.	£
Waste Paper	71.	7.	3.	482.
Scrap Iron	4.	6.	0.	5.
Pressed Tins	18.	11.	0.	28.
Bones	1.	6.	1.	10.
Kitchen Waste	58.	0.	0.	87.
Rags	1.	7.	1.	19.
Bottles & Jars	4.	3.	0.	24.
	159.	1.	1.	£655

SANITARY INSPECTION

	<u>No. of Premises Visited</u>	<u>Nuisances Discovered</u>	<u>Notices Prelim. Stat.</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary Inspections during 1946 (including housing)	1,796	208	208 15	162.

DISINFESTATION

Houses found to be infested.....16.
Houses disinfested.....16.

When required disinfestation is by means of "Vermicine"
and "Cescones" poison gas, carried out by the Local
Authority, at the expense of the owner or occupier.

HOUSING

STATISTICS

19 Houses (Prefabricated) were erected during the
year. 56 Permanent houses were in hand at the end
of the year, 28 of which were nearing completion.

CONDITIONS

The majority of the houses are in rows, stone-built,
about 50 years old. Later types are brick-built
semis mainly, many of the houses being owner-occupied
and well maintained.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

DAIRIES COWSHEDS & MILKSHOPS

The milk supply is plentiful and its quality whole-
some and it is distributed throughout the District
directly chiefly by farmers in the vicinity. Retail
milk purveyors registered with the Council.....45.
Producers of milk registered with the Council... 4.
Periodical inspections of places where food is
prepared have been made, and the premises generally
have been found in good order. Periodically,
bacteriological examinations of samples of milk are
made by the County Council.

MEAT

All slaughtering has been transferred to Abattoirs
outside the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

All cases of Infectious Disease were visited upon notification, and, where patients are not transferred to isolation hospital, they are isolated in one room of the house. Disinfectants are kept at the Town Hall and supplies are given to necessitous cases. Diphtheria Antitoxin and Tetanus Antitoxin are also issued free to Medical Practitioners on application.

MEASLES

109 cases of Measles were notified during the year. They were mostly of a mild type, with no deaths, and many cases occurred amongst children attending the Day Nursery.

WHOOPING COUGH

20 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year, and there was one death.

DIPHTHERIA

The final figures after correction show the number of cases of Diphtheria as Nil. 2 suspected Diphtheria cases were notified, but the final diagnosis was Tonsillitis and Vincents Angina respectively.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The scheme for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria has again met with a good response during the year. I visited the schools in the district during September and October and immunised any child who had not already had a full course of treatment and also gave reinforcing injections to children who have previously been immunised, 4 or more years ago. The number of injections is summarised as follows:-

Children Resident in Brierfield			Children Resident outside area		
No. completed full course	No. given one reinforcing injection	Total inject.	No. Comp. Full Course	No. given 1 rein. inject.	Total inject.
151	209	662	10	41	71.

Immunisation State of child population as at 31st December 1946:-

	Under 5 yr. of age	Over 5 and under 15	Total under 15 yrs of age.
Estimated mid. year population 1946	380	740	1,120.
No. of children imm. up to 31st Dec. 1946	276	512	788.
% Immunised	72%	69%	70%

The following table gives the total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified and the ages, during 1946:-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1946.

	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED													Total deaths	Total cases removed to Hospital from persons belonging to the District
	Total cases at all ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 2.	2. to 3.	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Measles	109	1	7	21	19	18	42	1							
Whooping Cough	20	1	4	4	3	4	3				1			1	
Scarlet Fever	12		2	2			6	1	1						5
Erysipelas	3								1		1	1			
Pneumonia	10			1	1						3	5		3	
Dysentery	5				1		1	1			1	1			1
	159	2	13	28	24	22	52	3	1	1	4	2	7	4	5
															1

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1946

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	1.	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	-	-	1.	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	-	-	1.	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1.	1.	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> </div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>4</div> </div> <div> <div>3</div> <div>1</div> </div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>1</div> </div> <hr/>								

As these cases are dealt with by the County Tuberculosis Officer we have no direct information about the number of cases receiving allowances.

LABORATORY WORK

SPECIMENS EXAMINED DURING YEAR 1946

Swabs for Diphtheria.....	Positive	0.	Negative	8.
Faeces: Pathogenic organisms.....	"	0.	"	2.
Sputum for Tuberculosis.....	"	1.	"	3.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Arrangements for Home Helps were made in 7 cases, Grants in aid of Hospital accommodation in 3 cases. Maternity outfits are now supplied by the County Midwife.

BIRTHS

Number of Births notified during the year under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or Section 255 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 as adjusted by any transfer notifications:-

- (a) Live Births..... 117.
- (b) Still Births..... 4.
- (c) Total Births..... 121.
- (d) By Midwives..... 66.
- (e) By Doctors & Parents... 55.

HEALTH VISITING

Number of Visits made by the Health Visitor during the year are as follows:-

Ante Natal.....	1st Visits	43.
	Total Visits	192.
Births.....	1st Visits	83.
	Total Visits	689.
Child Welfare.....		1211.
Whooping Cough.....	1st Visits	9.
	Total Visits	27.
Immunisation.....		93.

INFANT
WELFARE
CENTRE

Total number of children who first attended at the
during the year and who, on the date of their first

attendance were:-

- (i) Under 1 year of age..... 93.
(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years..... 3.
Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended

at the centre during the year and who, at the end of the year
were:-

- (i) Under 1 year of age..... 79
(ii) Over 1 year of age..... 126.

ANTENATAL
AND POST
NATAL
SERVICES

Number of women who attended ante-natal clinics
during the year..... 39.
Number of women who attended post-natal clinics
during the year..... 4.
Total number of expectant mothers ante-natally

examined and of cases post-natally examined during
the year, under arrangements made by the Council with
private medical practitioners:-

- (i) Ante-natal cases examined..... 3
(ii) Post-natal cases examined..... Nil.

SUPPLY OF Dried Milk (Cow & Gate, Glaxo etc.) is supplied at the Centre
DRIED MILK
AND SPECIAL for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years
FOODS.

----- of age. The total quantity of dried milk supplied during
the year to above cases was 2,309 pounds. Special Foods
supplied during the year were as follows:-

Vitrol	778	lbs.
Vitrolax	57	"
Lactagal	80	"
Groats	44	"
Glucose	620	"
Barley	30	"
Emulsion	33	bottles.

National Dried Milk, Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil are
obtainable at the Food Office.

MATERNAL
DEATHS

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

PREMATURE
BIRTHS

"Flying Squad" for emergency cases is stationed at Municipal
Hospital, Burnley. Arrangements made with the Bank Hall
Maternity Hospital, Burnley to admit premature infants,
born at home, as circumstances require.

ILLEGITIMATE
CHILDREN

No social workers in this area. Burnley and District
House of Help and local clergy supervise generally.

